

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13  
ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-12  
BIB-01 CU-04 HA-05 OES-07 EB-08 COME-00 NRC-05  
NASA-01 DOE-11 SOE-02 /170 W  
-----038708 161029Z /23

R 160933Z FEB 78  
FM AMCONSUL LENINGRAD  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4009  
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY MADRID  
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI  
USLO PEKING  
USMISSION USNATO  
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 LENINGRAD 00531

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINS, PGOV, PARM, PORG, PBOR, XH, XF, UR, US  
SUBJECT: LENINGRAD LECTURER ON INTERNATIONAL SITUATION

REF: LENINGRAD 0354 (NOTAL), 77 LENINGRAD 1747 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: IN FEBRUARY 12 TALK ON INTERNATIONAL SITUA-  
TION BEFORE PACKED CENTRAL LECTURE HALL, LENINGRAD LECTURER  
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V. P. RYBALKO DISCUSSED THE "SHARPER CHARACTER OF CLASS  
STRUGGLE" SINCE LAST NOVEMBER, PARAPHRASING BREZHNEV'S  
NOVEMBER 3 STATEMENT THAT WORLD STANDS AT CROSSROADS  
LEADING EITHER TO "GREATER TRUST OR RETURN TO COLD WAR."  
HIS TALK FOLLOWED MAIN OUTLINES OF OTHER RECENT LECTURES  
(REFTELS), BUT HE DEVOTED MORE ATTENTION TO SITUATION IN  
POLAND AND CHINA, WAS MORE POINTED IN CRITICISM OF U.S.

POLICY, NOTABLY IN BELGRADE CSCE TALKS, AND LINKED FUTURE US-SOVIET SUMMIT MEETING TO PROGRESS ON SALT. END SUMMARY.

2. GENERAL. LECTURER ATTRIBUTED INCREASE IN "CLASS STRUGGLE" TO FACT THAT OPPONENTS OF EASING TENSION ARE CONCERNED TO BLOCK SPREAD OF "NATIONAL LIBERATION" MOVEMENT AND ARE FRIGHTENED BY EVIDENCE OF INCREASED COMMUNIST PARTY STRENGTH; THIS CONCERN HAS PROVOKED FRICTION WITHIN CAPITALIST WORLD. PROCESS OF RELAXING INTERNATIONAL TENSION REMAINS, HOWEVER, DOMINANT TREND, WITH DISARMAMENT MOSCOW'S PRIMARY GOAL. LECTURER NOTED, IN DISCUSSING INFLATED WESTERN MILITARY BUDGETS, THAT TWO SUPER POWERS BETWEEN THEM HAVE ENOUGH NUCLEAR WEAPONS TO DESTROY ALL MANKIND FIFTEEN TIMES.

3. US-USSR RELATIONS. LECTURER FOCUSED ON SALT II AND BELGRADE CSCE NEGOTIATIONS AND (CITING BREZHNEV) ARGUED THAT 1972 SUMMIT AGREEMENTS PROVIDE LONG-TERM BASIS ON WHICH TO IMPROVE RELATIONS. HE NOTED THIS WAS MESSAGE WHICH PONOMAREV RECENTLY CONVEYED TO AMERICAN PEOPLE. ON SALT II, RYBALKO AMPLIFIED FEBRUARY 11 PRAVDA STATEMENT WITH SMALL DETAILS TO POINT UP UNREASONABLENESS OF U.S. POSITION, AND PREDICTED THAT OUTCOME OF TALKS WOULD DEPEND ON "SHARP, COMPLICATED" INTERNAL POLITICAL STRUGGLE WITHIN U.S. PRESIDENT CARTER WAS PICTURED AS BEING IN INCREASING TROUBLE WITH CONGRESS AND AMERICAN PUBLIC BECAUSE OF UNLIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FULFILLED CAMPAIGN PROMISES. LECTURER WENT OUT OF WAY TO STRESS THAT PRESENT TALKS ARE TO OPEN WAY FOR SALT III, WHICH WILL NOT ONLY LIMIT BUT ACTUALLY REDUCE STRATEGIC ARSENALS. IN ANSWER TO QUESTION ABOUT POSSIBLE SUMMIT MEETING, LECTURER SAID PRESIDENT HAD NOT BEEN INVITED TO USSR, BUT HAD INVITED BREZHNEV TO MEET HIM IN ALASKA; WHETHER SUMMIT MEETING TAKES PLACE WILL DEPEND PRIMARILY ON OUTCOME OF SALT II TALKS.

4. IN SHARPEST ATTACK YET BY LENINGRAD LECTURER ON BELGRADE TALKS, RYBALKO CHARGED THAT AMBASSADOR GOLDBERG, "LEADING ZIONIST IN U.S.," RECEIVED PERSONAL INSTRUCTIONS FROM PRESIDENT CARTER TO USE HELSINKI AGREEMENT TO LEGALIZE DISSIDENT ELEMENTS LIKE SHCHARANSKIY, SAKHAROV, ORLOV, GINSBURG, AND INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS. HE SAID AMB. VORONTSOV WAS UNDER STRICT INSTRUCTIONS "NOT TO ALLOW ANY ATTEMPT TO BLACKEN" SOVIET NAME. EVEN U.S. ALLIES WERE PUT OFF BY GOLDBERG'S BRAZENESS" (BEZPARDONOST) AND CRUDENESS OF HIS FILIBUSTERING EFFORTS TO DISTORT SOCIALIST REALITY. LECTURER PREDICTED THAT STALEMATE OVER FORMULATION OF "SHORT, POSITIVE" STATEMENT COULD LAST ANOTHER FORTNIGHT.

5. CHINA. IN LENGTHY POLEMIC, RYBALKO DISCOUNTED "COS-METIC REFORMS" OF NEW LEADERSHIP (RAISED WAGES, FREE CINEMA TICKETS, ETC.), DISCUSSED ECONOMIC WEAKNESS AND MILITARIZATION (41 PERCENT OF BUDGET, HALF FOR NUCLEAR-ARMED ROCKETS--OF WHICH CHINA HAS OVER 300) BUT STRESSED "LACK OF STABILITY" AMONG LEADERSHIP (CITING EVIDENCE OF POLITICAL STRUGGLE ON PROVINCIAL AND CENTRAL LEVEL). IN

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ANSWER TO QUESTION ABOUT BORDER NEGOTIATION, LECTURER  
SAID AMB. ILYCHEV IS RETURNING TO PEKING TO SEE IF ANY-  
THING HAS CHANGED BUT "WE DO NOT SEE ANY REAL SHIFT" IN  
CHINESE POSITION. IN HIS RECENT MEETING WITH GROMYKO,  
NEW CHINESE AMB ONLY DISCUSSED PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS, AND

CHINESE DIPLOMATS CONTINUE TO FOCUS THEIR ATTACKS ON USSR.  
CHINESE HAVE MAINTAINED OLD LINE THAT USSR SHOULD ACKNOWLEDGE ILLEGAL OCCUPATION OF 1.5 MILLION SQ KMS, RETURN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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33,000 SQ KMS TO CHINA AND WITHDRAW SOVIET TROOPS FROM BORDER AREA, WITHOUT OFFERING TO WITHDRAW THEIR OWN.

6. POLAND. DISCUSSING DIFFICULTIES IN POLAND AT SOME LENGTH, LECTURER SPOKE APPROVINGLY OF POLISH DETERMINATION TO RAISE QUALITY OF PRODUCTION, EFFECT "STRICT CONTROL" OVER IMPLEMENTATION OF ECONOMIC PLAN, AND DO MORE TO HELP POPULATION. HE CHARGED RFE, "DISSIDENTS INSIDE POLAND" AND "BRAZEN" WESTERN PROPAGANDA WITH TRYING UNSUCCESSFULLY TO ENCOURAGE BOYCOTT OF RECENT LOCAL ELECTIONS. LECTURER DEFENDED POLISH PARTY CONTACTS WITH VATICAN TO QUESTIONER ON GROUNDS THAT THIS DIALOGUE IS IMPORTANT FOR SOLUTION OF INTERNAL POLISH PROBLEMS. SPEAKER DISCREETLY MADE NO MENTION OF PRES. CARTER'S VISIT TO POLAND.

7. ON MIDDLE EAST. LECTURER SUGGESTED THAT SADAT'S "INITIATIVE" WAS WORKED OUT IN COLLABORATION WITH ISRAEL AND U.S.; IT "SHARPLY WORSENERED" THE M.E. SITUATION; PRES. CARTER IS SENSITIVE TO FACT 92 PERCENT OF AMERICAN JEWS VOTED FOR HIM; AND WHILE OFFERING SADAT SOME OLD-MODEL PHANTOMS, HE IS GIVING ISRAEL LATEST PLANES. RYBALKO NOTED THAT ARAB CRITICS OF SADAT HAD FORMED JOINT COMMAND, FUND AND INFORMATION PROGRAM, BUT MORE SIGNIFICANTLY THEY HAD REAFFIRMED IMPORTANCE OF USSR PLAYING MAJOR ROLE IN AREA. FOLLOWING UP HIGH-LEVEL ALGERIAN AND YEMENI VISITS TO MOSCOW, SECOND MAN IN IMPORTANCE AFTER LIBYA'S QADAFI IS COMING TO MOSCOW "SOON" (MAJOR ABDEL JELLUD ((PHON)) ARRIVED FEBRUARY 14) AND SYRIA'S PRESIDENT ASAD WILL COME IN SECOND HALF OF FEBRUARY. LECTURER NOTED THAT EGYPTIAN AMB TO MOSCOW HAD MET WITH SOVIET TRADE MINISTER IN JANUARY TO DISCUSS DEBT SETTLEMENT BUT HE DID NOT KNOW RESULTS.

8. FOLLOWING WERE AMONG THE MORE INTERESTING ADDITIONAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COMMENTS OR ANSWERS TO AUDIENCE QUESTIONS:

-- COSMOS 954. WESTERN PRESS TRIED TO EXPLOIT THIS INCIDENT AS PART OF ITS "SOVIET THREAT" CAMPAIGN, ATTEMPTING TO DEPICT COSMOS AS SOME SORT OF ATOMIC BOMB. U.S. HAS SENT UP 22 SATELLITES WITH NUCLEAR POWER UNITS AND HAD

ACCIDENTS WITH THREE. COSMOS DID NOT CREATE ANY THREAT TO POPULATION. U.S. AND CANADIAN LEADERS SHOWED "PROPER REALISM."

-- SPAIN IS GRATEFUL TO USSR AND UNDERSTANDS IT SUPPORTED MADRID AS SITE OF NEXT CSCE CONFERENCE BECAUSE IT IS NOT MEMBER OF MILITARY BLOC; SPAIN WILL ACCORDINGLY NOT ACTIVATE EFFORT TO ENTER NATO.

-- JAPAN'S DEMAND FOR RETURN OF FOUR NORTHERN ISLANDS IS "COMPLETELY ABSURD IDEA WHICH WE WILL NEVER ACCEPT."

-- ETHIOPIAN-SOMALI CONFLICT WAS DISCUSSED AT SOME LENGTH (NOTING MAJOR ETHIOPIAN COUNTERATTACK, SOVIET "ECONOMIC AND MATERIEL AID," ALLEGED SAUDI, CHINESE, US, NATO AID TO SOMALIS). ETHIOPIANS WERE QUOTED AS SAYING THEY DO NOT INTEND TO OCCUPY ANY PART OF SOMALIA. LECTURER CONCLUDED THAT, IF "SETBACK" (OTPOR) IS INFLICTED ON SOMALIA, THIS COULD LEAD TO DIPLOMATIC TALKS.

-- FINALLY, U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS PROVOKED NUMEROUS QUESTIONS: ON LEND LEASE SETTLEMENT, ALASKA, GENERAL VALUE OF TALKS WITH U.S. ON E.G. INDIAN OCEAN, AND WHY USSR ALLOWED WESTERN MILITARY OBSERVERS AT ITS RECENT MANEUVERS. ONE QUESTIONER WANTED TO KNOW WHETHER USSR COULD NOT HELP NIXON IN CONNECTION WITH HIS WATERGATE TROUBLE, WHICH BROUGHT A GOOD LAUGH.

9. COMMENT: HEAVY TURNOUT FOR THESE SUNDAY LECTURES AND BUSY NOTE-TAKING BY MIDDLE-AGED AUDIENCE CONFIRMS OUR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IMPRESSION THAT LECTURES ARE USED BY "ACTIVISTS" TO CATCH UP ON THE LATEST PARTY LINE FOR FURTHER TRANSMITTAL TO GROUPS IN WHICH THEY IN TURN, HAVE PROPAGANDA RESPONSIBILITIES. BUCHANAN

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## Message Attributes

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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 16 feb 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
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**TAGS:** PINS, PGOV, PARM, PORG, PBOR, XH, XF, UR, US, (RYBALKO, V P)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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